

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested. Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, 14-17, 19, 21-26, 28, and 30-33 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15, 17, 21, 24-26, 30, 31 and 33 are amended to incorporate canceled subject matter and to address cosmetic matters of form. Claims 6, 13, 20, and 29 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added.

By way of summary, the Official Action presents the following issues: Claims 1, 24, 25, and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Nagayasu (U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0136334, hereinafter Nagayasu); Abe et al. (U.S. Patent 7,027,533, hereinafter “Abe”); Walton et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0035491, hereinafter Walton), Subramanian et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2001/0031014, hereinafter Subramanian), Norman (U.S. Patent 6,023,492, hereinafter Norman in further view of El-Gamal et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2001/0034868, hereinafter El-Gamal)); Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Nagayasu, Abe, Walton, Subramanian, Norman, El-Gamal and in further view of Laroia et al. (U.S. Patent 6,473,418, hereinafter Laroia); Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Nagayasu, Abe, Walton, Subramanian, Norman, and El-Gamal and in further view of Das et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0076,783, hereinafter Das); Claims 10, 17, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Subramanian, Norman, and in further view of El Gamal; Claims 12, 19 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Subramanian, Norman, El-Gamal and in further view of Das; and Claims 6-9, 13-16, 20-23, and 29-32 have been identified as reciting allowable subject matter.

Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the identification of allowable subject matter. As such, Applicants have amended the independent claims to recite the allowable subject

matter of the canceled claims. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the outstanding substantive rejections have been rendered moot.

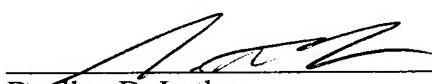
CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner believe any additional formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned, by telephone, at the Examiner's convenience for addressing such issues.

Consequently, in view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application, including Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, 14-17, 19, 21-26, 28, and 30-33 is patentably distinguished over the prior art, definite, in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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